

# ELMWOOD EXPRESS

**TEACHING AND LEARNING ARE VISIBLE**

Kevin Seibel, Principal

Kim Martini, Assistant Principal

Nov. 10, 2016

## PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

Elmwood would like to thank all of our parents who joined us for our Community & Conferences Event. I trust your conversations went well as you discussed your child's progress so far this year. Vast amounts of research continue to indicate parents that are actively involved in what their children are learning, have involved conversations with their child about what they are learning, and communicate with their teachers, have children who make higher academic growth. Look for the signs that your child is becoming a Visible Learner.

*we've always done, then we'll get  
always gotten."*

*Henry Ford*

## GO GREEN CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Go Green are excited to tell you about two very special programs we are coordinating at our school in conjunction with Crayola and Ronald McDonald House Charities.

The first program called Crayola ColorCycle – an amazing new program devised to turn used markers into energy! All around Elmwood School students and teachers will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. The markers will be sent to a facility where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more! Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house – even non-Crayola brands.

The second program involves recycling pop-tops for Ronald McDonald House Charities. Ronald McDonald House Charities helps families of children who are sick and/or need hospitalization.

There are two collection bins outside of the office for markers and pop-tops. Thank you for your support and cooperation!

~ The Go Green Club

## PATT NEWS

Pie fundraiser pick up Wed. Nov. 16th 4:00-5:30 PM in the gym!!!

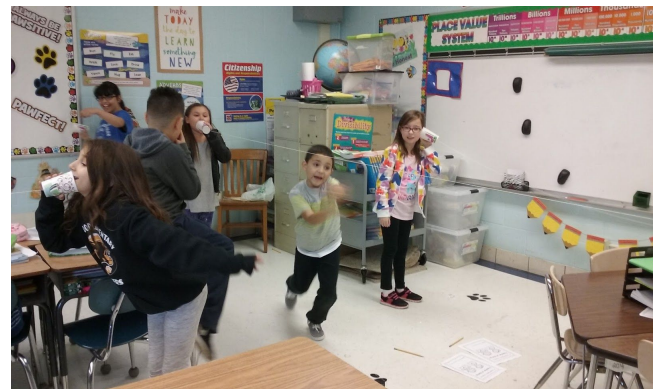
Bookstore will be open next week 11/14 thru 11/18- we are still looking for volunteers.

Looking for fun fair committee members if your interested please come to the meeting Wed Nov. 30th.

Keep an eye out the Gift Card Fundraiser coming home soon, shop early for Christmas.

Save the dates....Holiday shop will be Dec. 5th- 9th volunteers needed, more info to follow.

Thank you for all your support. Any questions please contact Michela Shipinski at 708-845-6446 or email [elmwoodpatt2319@outlook.com](mailto:elmwoodpatt2319@outlook.com)



*Mrs. DiSilvio's 4th graders figuring out how energy is transferred in a STEMscopes Science lesson!*



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### ***EXCITING TECHNOLOGY NEWS!***

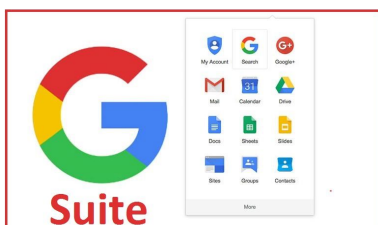
The District has been busily training teachers and administrators in Google Suite in order to provide the students of Elmwood Park an interactive and technologically-rich learning environment. After students return from Winter Break, they will have the ability to access the applications and features associated with Google Suite, such as Drive, Docs, Slides, and so on. Students will also have access to Gmail and Calendar. Student access to Gmail will only be available to students Grades 3-12.

Do not worry, the Gmail system students will have access to is a closed system, meaning they can only communicate with students and teachers who have access to the same @epcusd401.org account. This way they cannot receive or send messages outside of Elmwood Park. Safety is a primary concern of ours as we begin expanding the role of technology in the classroom.

While students and parents have already signed an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) at the beginning of the school year, the AUP needed to be updated to appropriately reflect what students will be exposed to and expected to use. In order for students to begin pursuing these new opportunities, the updated AUP needs to be signed by them and their parents.

This is a small step in a larger plan to incorporate technology into the classrooms and provide a more blended learning environment for all students. The District is pleased with the teachers' excitement, their wanting Elmwood Park students to experience the benefits of a blended classroom, and their providing further differentiation into their learning experience. It is our plan to begin sharing with the community the scope of our Technology Initiative in the coming weeks.

If you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Wade, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at 708-583-5835 or [waden@epcusd401.org](mailto:waden@epcusd401.org). Thank you.



### ***WORDS OF WISDOM***

Happy Thursday Panthers and Parents! The theme for the month of November is “Daring to Be Our Best.” This week we focused on managing stress. Kids deal with stress in both healthy and unhealthy ways. And while they may not initiate a conversation about what's bothering them, they do want their parents to reach out and help them cope with their troubles. But it's not always easy for parents to know what to do for a child who's feeling stressed. Here are a few ideas:

- Notice out loud. Tell your child when you notice that something's bothering him or her. If you can, name the feeling you think your child is experiencing. Be sympathetic and show you care and want to understand.
- Listen to your child. Ask your child to tell you what's wrong. Listen attentively and calmly — with interest, patience, openness, and caring. Avoid any urge to judge, blame, lecture, or say what you think your child should have done instead. The idea is to let your child's concerns (and feelings) be heard.
- Comment briefly on the feelings you think your child was experiencing. Feeling understood and listened to helps your child feel supported by you, and that is especially important in times of stress.
- Put a label on it. Many younger kids do not yet have words for their feelings. If your child seems angry or frustrated, use those words to help him or her learn to identify the emotions by name. Putting feelings into words helps kids communicate and develop emotional awareness — the ability to recognize their own emotional states. Kids who can do so are less likely to reach the behavioral boiling point where strong emotions come out through behaviors rather than communicated with words.

Have a wonderful weekend, and remember to come to school on Monday prepared to Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be ready for class! With something to think about, this is Ms. Martini. Make it a great weekend – or not. The choice is yours!

***BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL, BE READY***